

Ultimately, our Nation will be judged not by how we treat the most powerful, but by the most powerless. The 41st anniversary of *ROE v. WADE* will be marked next week. There will be a big march here in Washington, D.C. Since 1973, when *ROE v. WADE* came down, over 400,000 Kansans have been killed. That is more than the largest city in my district, my hometown—Wichita, Kansas.

This national tragedy is why next week thousands of people will come from Kansas, hundreds from south central Kansas alone, for the March for Life. They will come from all walks of life, and they will speak about this violence that is being done upon our Nation.

Hundreds of people will get on buses next Saturday. I hope to greet them there. After the walk, I hope they will come to Cannon House Office Building, where we can talk about the importance of this issue to our community and Kansas and to our Nation.

I look forward to seeing them. I encourage everyone to come to Washington, D.C., and act on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves.

EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, it has been more than 3 weeks since Congress left for a December recess, leaving far too many Americans, including thousands of Oregonians, without access to emergency unemployment benefits.

That is a long time for our constituents who are trying to pay their rent, purchase groceries, care for their families, and fill their cars with gas so they can get to job interviews. Now we are planning to leave town again tomorrow for 10 days without addressing this urgent need.

My constituents are contacting me, pleading with Congress to understand the challenges they face in this recovering economy. I heard from a college graduate. She previously owned her own business but lost her job in May. Since then, she has been retraining to get the skills she will need. She is ready and willing to work in a new industry. Unemployment benefits, which she is now without, were helping. She is one of too many.

Madam Speaker, we must extend emergency unemployment benefits, and we need to do it now. Our constituents can't wait any longer.

PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, next week marks 41 years since the Supreme Court's *ROE v. WADE* decision. Nearly

57 million children have lost their lives since then. This genocide of unborn Americans must stop. Congress should respect and defend innocent human life.

An increasing majority of Americans do not believe abortion should be legal for any reason at any time during pregnancy. Yet, the U.S. stands with the governments of North Korea and China in refusing to restrict abortion, even up to the moment of birth.

This House, on a bipartisan vote last year, voted to acknowledge the overwhelming scientific evidence that an unborn child, being aborted after 20 weeks in the womb, experiences pain. It is past time for our colleagues in the Senate to join us in standing up for the innocent by passing the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

(Ms. BROWNLEY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Madam Speaker, it has been over 40 years since the Supreme Court decided *ROE v. WADE*, affirming a woman's constitutional right to make her own health care decisions.

In 2012, campaigns across the country, including mine and that of the Presidency, were fought and won on this issue. Yet, here we are again.

H.R. 7, a bill being considered by the Republicans on the Judiciary Committee, is a shameful attempt to deny a woman a right given to her under our Constitution in pursuit of an ideology that has been repeatedly rejected by the American people.

Madam Speaker, that this House would even consider a bill that would require a woman to prove to the IRS that she was raped or the victim of incest in order to have access to affordable health care is beneath the dignity of this body, it is beyond my comprehension, it is reprehensible.

RECLAIM THE AMERICAN DREAM

(Mr. STEWART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, here we are, entering the sixth year of the Obama Administration, and we have reached a new milestone. It is a shameful and discouraging milestone that directly affects the lives of every working American family.

After 7 straight years of decline, this great Nation has fallen out of the top 10 most economically free nations.

The United States of America, the Nation that invented and created the world's greatest middle class, the Nation that taught the world the meaning of free enterprise, the Nation that figured out more than 200 years ago that greater economic freedom leads to greater individual growth, economic growth, social stability, personal op-

portunity, has now fallen behind such economic powerhouses as Denmark and Chile and Estonia in economic freedom.

We all pay the price. Every American family.

Why are we doing this to our children?

I hope and I pray that we can reclaim the American Dream before it is too late.

EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, extending Federal unemployment insurance will create between 200,000 and 250,000 jobs this year alone and boost GDP by 0.2 percentage points, according to a new report just issued by the Joint Economic Committee Democrats.

For every dollar we invest in unemployment insurance, we get back almost \$2 in economic activity. That is a great return everyone from Main Street to Wall Street should be able to agree on.

The JEC Democrats' report also found that unemployment insurance is one of the most effective tools that we have to keep families out of poverty. Last year alone, the program kept nearly 2.5 million people, including 600,000 children, out of poverty.

Allowing Federal unemployment insurance to expire is not only wrong on a moral level because it pulls the rug out from under some of our neediest people, it is also an absolutely terrible investment decision for our country's economy.

I urge my fellow Democrats and Republicans to extend unemployment insurance.

OBAMACARE DATA

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, the administration reported this week that they have fallen far short of their goal for signing young, healthy Americans up for new ObamaCare plans.

Ever since the failure of healthcare.gov to launch properly, the administration has downplayed the importance of enrolling their goal of 7 million Americans in exchange plans. All the recent talk has been about how much more important it is to have a mix of older, sicker Americans than younger, healthier Americans.

Now we come to find out that this younger cohort only makes up 24 percent of enrollees. That is 15 percentage points below their goal.

The definition of success keeps changing. That is exactly why we need Representative TERRY's bill to require HHS to give Congress and the American people solid data. We cannot trust

officials who keep moving the goalpost and keep assuring us that everything is fine when in reality it keeps failing.

It is time we remove the rose-colored glasses and get to the facts.

WOMEN AND THE SHRIVER REPORT

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, one of the most common stories I hear from my constituents is the struggle to survive from paycheck to paycheck and to support their families.

Maria Shriver's new report detailing the economic challenges for women in America is in the news this week, and its findings are shocking.

We face the alarming reality that one in three women either live in poverty or are right on the brink. Two-thirds of the primary or co-breadwinners in American families are women, yet women earn just 77 cents for every dollar earned by men performing the same jobs.

Ensuring that men and women receive equal pay for equal work isn't just a matter of fairness; it is a matter of economic necessity. Especially in these tough economic times, smaller paychecks and lack of paid family leave for women make it harder for mothers to support their families, purchase health care, send their kids to college, and save for retirement.

Congress must take the next step and institute new policies that support women and their families.

As a Nation, we can and must do better.

POLARIS PROJECT, CINDY MCCAIN, AND CLEAR CHANNEL—SUPER TEAM TO FIGHT TRAFFICKING

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, modern day slavery of children will not end without public awareness.

So in conjunction with the Polaris Project and Cindy McCain, Clear Channel is donating billboard space around Phoenix to inform the people of Arizona about the despicable crime of human trafficking.

Human trafficking increases around major sporting events such as the Super Bowl. New Jersey is getting ready for this year's Super Bowl by doing all they can to fight human trafficking. Arizona is working to bring awareness a year before their Super Bowl.

Human sex slavery happens right here in America. Until we acknowledge the fact that young girls are being sold on the streets, this despicable crime will continue.

I commend Clear Channel and activists and organizations, like Cindy

McCain and the Polaris Project, in their fight against human trafficking.

We need to rescue the victims and put the slave traders and their cohorts in crime, the child abusing consumers, behind bars.

And that's just the way it is.

PREVENTING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN IRAN

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, the recent developments in our diplomatic efforts to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons have been among the most promising in history.

In the interim, Iran has agreed to stop enriching uranium above the necessary level for energy production, dilute its existing stockpile, and allow unprecedented access to its nuclear facilities.

During the next 6 months, the administration and the international community will continue working toward a more comprehensive, verifiable agreement that enforces prevention and advances peace in the region. Already there are devastating consequences for Iran if it does not comply with the agreement.

The progress achieved thus far demonstrates that diplomacy is working. Congressional action now could jeopardize that progress, undermine the diplomatic process, and weaken our Nation's position in future negotiations.

As an American first, but also as a Jewish American, I strongly support Israel's security and our Nation's commitment to preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

I also fully support advancing peace and stability in the Middle East through diplomacy whenever possible.

Madam Speaker, we are in the midst of a historic opportunity to prevent nuclear proliferation in Iran, but it is fragile. Congressional interference at such a sensitive time is a high-risk, no-reward proposition.

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WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN?

(Mr. MESSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MESSER. Madam Speaker, next week, our Nation will mark 41 years since the Supreme Court legalized abortion with the *ROE v. WADE* decision. During that time, more than 50 million children have been denied their God-given right to life.

Think about that.

How different might our world have been had those children been born? One might have cured cancer or have been the teacher for your son or daughter. We will never know, but we do know they all matter. They all matter to their Creator. They all would have mattered to their friends and families.

As a Nation, we must recommit ourselves to defending the God-given right to life so we are not still wondering what might have been 40 years from now.

EUGENE'S UNEMPLOYMENT STORY

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, as we debate how to extend unemployment benefits—and I certainly hope we will have that debate—we must remember what this vital lifeline means to real people.

Just recently, I held a roundtable discussion with local San Diegans in my district who are struggling to find work. In listening to their stories, I was struck by what a difference these essential benefits make.

Eugene, for example, was employed in the health care industry until June of 2012. When his lifeline was cut off shortly after Christmas, Eugene noted how “confidence falls, financial pressures mount, anxiety increases, and we begin to take desperate measures just to survive.” He added that these Federal extensions do make a difference, particularly in the case of having stable housing.

It is unfair to let this happen. After all, these benefits were earned by people who have worked and paid into the system. They should be able to put their full energies into getting a job; but if you can't afford housing, if you can't afford transportation to work, then that is nearly impossible to do. We should do the right thing for Eugene and for over 1 million fellow Americans by extending this lifeline now.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BISON NATION

(Mr. CRAMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, North Dakota is known for having the strongest economy and the lowest unemployment rate in the Nation. We are also known as the home of North Dakota State University, or “Bison Nation” as we like to call it.

While millions of football fans spent the first weekend of the new year probably hoping for global warming and while contemplating what a “polar vortex” is, hearty Bison football fans watched and cheered as their beloved Thundering Herd earned a third consecutive Division I Football National Championship by handily defeating Towson 35-7, capping a perfect 15 and 0 win last season with an explanation mark. The route to three FCS championships includes a record-setting 24 consecutive victories and a 3-year win-loss record of 43 and 2.

Yes, my little State in the middle of the North American continent produces food for a hungry world, energy